

"laid back" style have served him well when handling issues that come up at the various levels of tournament play. He has even worked on Babe Ruth Tournaments for the Midwest Region.

Because of Sonny's love for kids and his commitment to the Babe Ruth program, he has been welcomed into the Colorado Babe Ruth Hall of Fame, and I am proud to represent such a fine individual in the U.S. Congress. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Robert "Sonny" Smith for his outstanding contributions to his community.

ON "EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE NINTH CIRCUIT DEPLORABLY INFRINGED ON PARENTAL RIGHTS IN FIELDS V. PALMDALE SCHOOL DISTRICT."

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2005

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, today this House considers a resolution to condemn a ruling by a United States Court of Appeals. Whether we agree with the Court's decision or not, the Court returned its decisions based on Constitutional law. A Congressional resolution in reaction to the Palmdale School District's part in the development and use of the survey tool would be the more appropriate role for this Congress. The Palmdale School District, not the Court, failed the parents and students. Parents have the right to a final say in the type of education their child receives and the right to deny their child's participation in surveys and research. Parents can only do so when they are given full and accurate information.

As a Member of Congress, it is my role to create, consider, and vote on legislation. The Court's role is to rule on those laws. I will vote "present" on this resolution before us today because I believe strongly in the separate branches of our government and that Congress oversteps our role by denouncing the Court's decision.

ONE FOR TINA DUBLIN

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the wedding anniversary of John and Frances Cuellar, a couple from South Texas who has been married for 50 years.

Mr. Speaker, John Cuellar and Frances Gonzales were both born during the Depression and derived great family values from having little to their name. Family, honesty and love have led them to 50 years of happiness. They met while they were independently involved in the Catholic Youth Organization in Cuero, Texas.

After they met, Mr. Cuellar joined the U.S. Navy and was sent to Maryland. The couple wed on Dec. 28, 1955 while John was home

on leave for Christmas. They both moved to Maryland after their marriage to start their lives together.

After his tour in the Navy was over, Mr. Cuellar joined the Texas Highway Department and then transitioned into law enforcement with the Cuero Police Department. At the close of his professional career, he was employed with the U.S. Marshall's office in Victoria, Texas. Mrs. Cuellar worked as a deputy county clerk and is now retired. She is a licensed nurse and prides herself on being so.

The Cuellar's raised four children, John Jr., Mike, Ronnie and Tina. They have fifteen grandchildren and five great grandchildren. Texas is honored to have such a fine couple who has served Southern Texas faithfully and diligently.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor John and Francis Cuellar and I thank you for this time.

HONORING DOUGLAS W. DODGE

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2005

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Captain Douglas W. Dodge of Turlock, CA upon his retirement for his tremendous service to his community. Turlock Police Services will hold an event to honor Captain Dodge on December 15th, 2005.

After returning from service with the United States Army in Vietnam, Douglas Dodge took a position as a reserve officer with the Turlock Police Services in 1973. In September of 1974, he was hired as a full-time Parking Enforcement Officer and worked in this classification for approximately one and one-half years. During this assignment he worked other duties, including property/evidence, dispatch, and identifications for the Investigations Bureau. In February of 1976, he became a full-time sworn police officer and worked patrol and investigations assignments. Over the years he was promoted up through the ranks and in April of 2002 made the rank of Captain.

In 1999, Captain Dodge returned to college to pursue a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management. He is a member of the Stanislaus County Peace Officer's Association and an associate member of the California Police Chief's Association. At present, he serves on the Steering Committees for the Ray Simon Regional Criminal Justice Training Center and the Sacramento Valley High Tech Crimes Task Force.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Captain Douglas W. Dodge of Turlock, CA for his years of dedicated service. I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking Captain Dodge for his tireless efforts and in wishing him many years of continued success.

TRIBUTE TO CARDON AND JOYCE BERRY—2005 MERITORIOUS SERVICE

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 14, 2005

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Cardon and Joyce Berry, the 2005 4-

H Meritorious Service Award winners. At the 2005 Kiowa County 4-H Achievement Banquet on Friday, November 4, 2005 the Meritorious Service Award was presented to a couple that believe in the 4-H program and the benefits and opportunities it offers to youth. They were both ten-year 4-H members and have devoted numerous years as leaders. They raised two children who were very active in 4-H and are now assisting their grandchildren who are active members in a local club today.

The Berrys made an important decision to have their children participate in 4-H, knowing how much it had meant in their youth. Cardon grew up in Kiowa County and raised his own family in the same home in which he had lived. The 4-H Club he participated in was no more, but the community had once again found itself with many youngsters. The Berrys helped to reinstate the Prairie Queen 4-H Club for the kids who benefited from the experience.

The Berry family is faithful in attending numerous 4-H activities, and have sponsored many trophies over the years. They are both active in many different civic roles within Kiowa County and they make their community a better place.

I am honored to be representing Cardon and Joyce Berry in the U.S. Congress. Individuals like this make 4-H and the youth who participate a valuable asset to the community. I'm sure Kiowa County will be blessed for many more years because of the selflessness of the Berry family.

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EDUCATION FOR ALL HANDICAPPED CHILDREN ACT

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2005

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of this resolution celebrating the 30th anniversary of the enactment of the Education for All Handicapped Children Act and reaffirming Congress's support for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

I believe strongly that Congress must provide the funding promised nearly 30 years ago for IDEA and that is why I support legislation that would fully fund this commitment to special education. All American children must have access to a free public education in an environment that is appropriate and supportive.

While this resolution today acknowledges the promise to our states and schools to fund IDEA at 40 percent of the average per pupil expenditure, it fails to address how far we are from making that goal a reality. This Republican-controlled Congress funds IDEA at less than 20 percent of its promise. We owe it to our students, their families, and our communities to make full funding a reality. I will continue to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to fully fund our commitment to special education.

Because of the efforts of families, teachers, and school administrators across the country, we are, today, able to make the needs of students with disabilities a priority. It is time that

this Congress remembers not only the anniversary, but also the promise and commitment made to families and children. I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution and to continue to vote in favor of funding our federal responsibility to special education in order to move us forward in our goal to provide an equal, quality education for all students.

ONE FOR DEBUTANT

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 80th anniversary of The Pals, an organization in San Antonio, Texas that has been helping young black women enter adulthood with more ease and grace through their annual Debutante Ball.

Mr. Speaker, in 1925, four young ladies were meeting weekly for a social game of bridge. One of the women, Vivian Lowery Vincent suggested that they start The Pals. The name derived from the phrase "pleasant attitude toward life." Others soon joined the group, and by 1927, these women envisioned a dream to present young, African American girls approaching adulthood to society. This dream became reality when The Pals hosted the first Debutante Ball in 1928.

The Club members believed that the social life of young Black women in San Antonio would be more secure by having, in their background, the interest of older, caring, dynamic women. They also knew that, in the goal for the perpetuity of African Americans, there was an urgency to preserve "gentility" within the race. Subsequently, The Pals selected and sponsored debutantes to develop and promote social and civic awareness, cultural dignity, pride and sense of self.

In 1979, The Pals were honored by the United Negro College Fund, Inc and presented the Fred D. Patterson Award and in 1992, the National Council of Negro Women, Inc honored The Pals for the organization's outstanding leadership toward the growth and development of the Minority Community of San Antonio. Each year accolades are received from parents, citizens and debutantes.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor The Pals for helping young women in our community.

HONORING CHIEF LONALD LOTT

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2005

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor chief Lott of Turlock, CA upon his retirement for his dedicated service to his community. Turlock Police Services will hold an event to honor Chief Lott on December 15th, 2005.

After serving in the United States Coast Guard, Lott entered law enforcement in 1973 as a reserve police officer for the City of Hayward. A year later, he moved to the Central Valley after having accepted a position as a police officer for the City of Modesto. In

1980, Officer Lott traveled slightly south to the City of Turlock to serve as a police officer. Having demonstrated tremendous leadership, Officer Lott was appointed to the position of Chief of Police in February of 1997.

Chief Lott holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Organizational Behavior, a Master of Arts degree in Criminal Justice, and is a graduate of the FBI National Academy. Chief Lott has held leadership positions in numerous law enforcement organizations, including the California Police Chiefs Association, Stanislaus County Association of Law Enforcement Executives and has served as a member of the Stanislaus County Peace Officers Association, the California Peace Officers Association and the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

Chief Lott also serves as a part-time faculty member at California State University-Stanislaus where he teaches courses in Criminal Justice, Management, and Leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Chief Lott of Turlock, CA for his years of dedicated service. I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking Chief Lott for his tireless efforts and in wishing him many years of continued success.

TRIBUTE TO MR. MEL KING

HON. MARILYN N. MUSGRAVE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2005

Mrs. MUSGRAVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the patriotism and heroism of Mr. Mel King.

Mr. King served with distinction in the Army Air Corp during the harrowing days of the Second World War. As a B-17 crew member in the 815th Squadron of the 483 Bombardment Group, Mr. King and his fellow crew members played an integral role in the Allied defeat of Nazi Germany.

The crew of the Good Deal formed in November 1943 with Mr. Melbourne King of Crook, CO as one of the thirteen member crew, which included Paul E. Ray, Warren O. Griffin, Carl B. Hardy, Gerald Kramer, Foster F. Knight, James I. Korshak, Walter J. Gladioux, August O. Bresciz, Theodore Engelun, Fred A. Clark, Jr., Robert J. Dalzin, and John M. Spear.

On April 12, 1944 Mr. King and the crew of the Good Deal participated in their first mission to Split, Yugoslavia. In the following months, the crew of the Good Deal saw action over Toulon, Milan, Weiner Neustadt, Vienna, Budapest, Blechhammer, Ploesti, and Memmingen.

Despite the fact that fourteen of twenty-six American B-17s were lost over the German town of Memmingen on July 18, 1944, Mr. King and his crewmates successfully downed seven German fighters.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of Mr. King's distinguished service and humbled by his courageous patriotism. The sacrifices he and the men of the Good Deal made to ensure the liberty and freedom of future generations will never be forgotten. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Melbourne D. Ring and the crew of the Good Deal.

COMMEMORATING THE JAVITS-WAGNER O'DAY PROGRAM

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2005

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I wish to commemorate the Javits-Wagner O'Day program (JWOD) on the service they provide to thousands of individuals.

The JWOD program is the single largest source of employment for individuals who are blind or have severe disabilities. This program employs more than 45,000 people. The JWOD program trains persons with disabilities to acquire job skills that will be resourceful in their everyday lives. With these skills and training, a participant in this program can receive wages and benefits thereby gaining a greater independence and quality of life.

In my district in Georgia, there is a JWOD program named Happy Hour that exemplifies the good work that this organization is built upon. Happy Hour employs 170 disabled individuals and gives them an opportunity to contribute to their communities. Executive Director Steve Smith leads an office of 90-100 hard working staffers along with many volunteers who are all dedicated to ensuring each person reaches a common goal.

Happy Hour has a working relationship with Robins Air Force Base. Through this relationship Happy Hour participants are able to help the government and save tax payers money. A few of the projects that help Robins Air Force Base is Robin's Recycling, respiratory cleaning and repair, tool de numbering, and air craft hardware sorting. Though they may seem minor, without Happy Hour, workers who do these tasks at Robins AFB would have a much harder time operating.

FURTHER CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 3010, DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 14, 2005

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, this Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill is a very flawed bill which would badly underfund health care, education, and social services critical to all Americans. Although I was unable to vote in favor of the bill, I do want to call attention to one bright spot.

For the first time, the Congress has provided dedicated funding to educate women, their families, and their physicians about the risk factors and early warning signs of gynecologic cancer. Each year, tens of thousands of women die of gynecologic cancers that could have been treated had they been detected earlier. Ovarian cancer, the deadliest of the gynecologic cancers, has a survival rate of 80 to 90 percent if detected in Stage One or Stage Two and a survival rate of 20 percent or less in the late stages.

Although only cervical cancer has a screening test reliable enough for routine use on